

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9-14, 16, 18 and 19 as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

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Claim 1 (currently amended): A control method for a home office system ~~[[which]]~~ that includes user terminal devices ~~[[and]]~~ each of which includes a display device connected to the user terminal devices, said method comprising:

a virtual spaces providing step, of providing a virtual ~~[[spaces]]~~ space on a display device for ~~[[users]]~~ each user of the user terminal devices;

~~a view providing step, of providing a different view for each of the virtual spaces on the display device;~~

a monitoring step, of monitoring ~~[[the]]~~ a physical condition of a user while the user is in a certain virtual space; and

a control step, of automatically changing ~~[[the]]~~ on each display device a display of the certain a virtual space of the user to a display of a virtual space for rest in response when the user is determined in said monitoring step to have been in a predetermined condition for more than a predetermined time when it is determined that the user should take a rest, based on a result in said monitoring step, so that the user in the changed virtual space for rest can may informally communicate with other users existing present in ~~[[the]]~~ a common virtual space for rest.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium [[for]] storing a program for a home office system which includes that comprises user terminal devices [[and]] each of which includes a display device ~~connected to the user terminal devices, said, the~~ program comprising:

code for a virtual spaces providing step, of providing a virtual spaces space on a display device for [[users]] each user of the user terminal devices;

code for a view providing step, of providing a different view for each of the virtual spaces on the display device;

code for a monitoring step, of monitoring [[the]] a physical condition of a user while the user is in a certain virtual space; and

code for a control step, of automatically changing [[the]] on each display device a display of the certain a virtual space of the user to a display of a virtual space for rest in response when the user is determined in said monitoring step to have been in a predetermined condition for more than a predetermined time when it is determined that the user should take a rest, based on a result in the monitoring step, so that the user in the changed virtual space for rest can may informally communicate with other users existing present in [[the]] a common virtual space for rest.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (currently amended): A control apparatus for a virtual system, which ~~[[has]] includes plural user terminal devices and a host server device connected to the plural user terminal devices through a communication network, and which creates a virtual spaces space on a display device of each of the plural user terminal devices, said control apparatus comprising:~~

~~a virtual space providing unit arranged to provide [[the]] a virtual spaces space on a display device for users each user of the plural user terminal devices;~~

~~a view providing unit arranged to provide a different view for each of the virtual spaces on a display device of the host server device;~~

~~a monitoring unit arranged to monitor [[the]] a physical condition of a user while the user is in a certain virtual space; and~~

~~a control unit arranged to automatically change [[the]] on each display device a display of the certain a virtual space of the user to [[the]] a display of another virtual space in response when the user is determined by said monitoring unit to have been in a predetermined condition for more than a predetermined time when it is determined that the user should take a rest, based on a result of said monitoring unit, so that wherein the user moves on at least one of the virtual spaces.~~

Claim 6 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 5, further comprising an imaging unit arranged to image the user, wherein said monitoring unit monitors ~~[[the]] a state of the user based on the basis of an image of the user outputted from said imaging unit.~~

Claim 7 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said monitoring unit monitors a face direction of the user, and said control unit moves the user to another virtual space in a case ~~[[where]]~~ in which the user looks toward the user's user terminal device ~~[[with]]~~ a predetermined number of times or for a predetermined time.

Claim 8 (canceled)

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Claim 9 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 5, further comprising an imaging unit arranged to image the user, wherein

said imaging unit includes a voice sound information obtaining unit for obtaining voice sound information,

said monitoring unit monitors an emotion of the user based on the ~~basis of~~ the voice sound information obtained by ~~[[said]]~~ the voice sound information obtaining unit, and

said control unit moves the user to another virtual space ~~in case of judging if it~~ is judged that the user is in a ~~[[great]]~~ stress condition, in accordance with ~~[[the]]~~ a recognition result obtained by said monitoring unit.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein the ~~another~~ other virtual space is a space used for taking a cooperative rest.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein

the user's user terminal device ~~[[has]]~~ includes a transmission unit for transmitting arranged to transmit information of the user to the host server device, and said monitoring unit, which is provided in the host server device, monitors a state of the user based on the basis of the information transmitted from the user's user terminal device.

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Claim 12 (currently amended): A control method of a virtual system, which ~~[[has]]~~ includes plural user terminal devices and a host server device connected to the plural user terminal devices through a communication network, and which creates a virtual spaces space on a display device of each of the plural user terminal devices, said method comprising:

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a virtual space providing step, of providing a virtual spaces space on a display device for users each user of the plural user terminal devices;

a ~~view providing step, of providing a different view for each of the virtual spaces on a display device of the host server device;~~

a monitoring step, of monitoring ~~[[the]]~~ a physical condition of a user while the user is in a certain virtual step; and

a control step of automatically changing ~~[[the]]~~ on each display device a display of the certain a virtual space of the user to [[the]] a display of another virtual space in response when the user is determined in said monitoring step to have been in a predetermined condition for more than a predetermined time when it is determined that the user should take a rest, based on a result in said monitoring step, so that the user moves ~~[[on]]~~ among the virtual

spaces.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 12, further comprising an image step, of imaging the user, wherein said monitoring step includes monitoring [[the]] a state of the user based on the basis of an image obtained in said image step.

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Claim 14 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 13, wherein said monitoring step includes monitoring a face direction of the user, and said control step moves the user to another virtual space in a case [[where]] in which the user looks toward the user's user terminal device [[with]] a predetermined number of times or for a predetermined time.

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Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 12, further comprising an image step, of imaging the user, wherein
said image step includes a voice sound information obtaining step, of obtaining voice sound information,

said monitoring step includes monitoring an emotion of the user based on the basis of the voice sound information obtained in [[said]] the voice sound information obtaining step, and

said control step includes moving a current virtual space of the user to another

virtual space ~~in case of judging if it is judged~~ that the user is in a ~~[[great]]~~ stress condition, in accordance with ~~[[the]]~~ a recognition result obtained in said monitoring step.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A method according to Claim 14, wherein the other virtual space is a space used for taking a cooperative rest.

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Claim 18 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for a virtual system, which ~~[[has]]~~ includes plural user terminal devices and a host server device connected to the plural user terminal devices through a communication network, and which creates a virtual spaces, said space on a display device of each of the plural user terminal devices, the program comprising:

code for a virtual space providing step, of providing a virtual spaces space on a display device for users each user of the plural user terminal devices;

~~code for a view providing step, of providing a different view for each of the virtual spaces on a display device of the host server device;~~

code for a monitoring step, of monitoring ~~[[the]]~~ a physical condition of a user while the user is in a certain virtual step; and

code for a control step of automatically changing ~~[[the]]~~ on each display device a display of the certain a virtual space of the user to ~~[[the]]~~ a display of another virtual space in response when the user is determined in said monitoring step to have been in a predetermined condition for more than a predetermined time when it is determined that the user should take a

Sub B1 rest, based on a result in the monitoring step, so that the user moves [[on]] among the virtual spaces.

C1 added Claim 19 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 13, wherein the user's user terminal device [[has]] includes a transmission unit for transmitting arranged to transmit information of the user to the host server device, and said monitoring step monitors includes monitoring a state of the user based on the basis of the information transmitted from the user's user terminal device.